Illinois Elks Association

NEWSETTE

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GER Keith Mills offers up words of wisdom at Mid-Winter Meeting

Check out page two for more Mid-Winter Meeting Pics!

Debbie Wallace has a clean sweep in Chairs Competition

Fairfield Lodge #1631 took home the winning title in all four categories of the Individual Chairs Competition at the Mid-Winter Meeting. She was also named the winner of the Flag Charge Contest. Debbie will compete at the National Convention in Atlanta and be a fine representative of the Illinois Elks Association! Great work, Debbie!

Illinois Elks Association

ANNUAL CONVENTION

May 12-15, 2022
Springfield – Wyndham Hotel

Schedule of Events, Registration Form and More on Pages 3 & 4

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Jim Cusack

Many Thanks to IEA

Eileen and I are very thankful to the IEA officers and members for giving us support and guidance this year. All committee chairs did a great job keeping our programs moving forward. Their tasks were difficult due to Covid-19. VA Hospitals, schools, and other facilities were not open for visitation. Innovative methods were used to make our programs successful.

In January, our Grand Exalted Ruler T. Keith Mills and his wife First Lady Amy visited our convention. GER Mills gave informative and interesting advice during his visit. Thanks to the planning of our state sponsor F. Louis Sulsberger, his wife Beth, Grand Secretary Bryan Klatt, his wife Sue, Grand Trustee Charlie Campbell, and his wife Jan for escorting the first couple during their stay.

At our May meeting we will have a Memorial service for our members that passed away last year. This memorial service is open to all family, friends, and Elks.

We will also hold an election for Third Vice President in May. I encourage all eligible voters to attend. The three candidates are all campaigning across the state at district meetings and lodge events.

On Sunday morning our new state officers will be installed. The installation is open to all family members, friends, and Elks. Pleased attend and show your support for incoming President Todd Lindsay, state, and district officers.

In closing, continue to work all our programs. Thank you for the opportunity of serving as your state President. Eileen and I enjoyed meeting Elks from across the state this year. Keep "Recruiting and Retaining."

Registration Form on Page 13

POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to
IEA Children's Care Corporation
P.O. Box 222, Chatham, IL 62629-0222

STATE NEWS

A WORD FROM OUR OFFICERS...

INTERIM IEA SECRETARY

Joe Ray

Members all,

As we begin a new year in Elkdom, many things will change and many will remain the same. I know we all will support Todd Lindsay as he begins his year as our State President. Todd will put his heart and soul in all he does for the IEA, as will the rest of the State, District and the Local Lodge Officers.

We will be having an election for 3rd Vice President. All three candidates are very well qualified for the office. These people are just hard working Elks and believe in what we do on a daily basis.

Myself along with many Elks made the trip to Iowa City to watch the regional Hoop Shoot. A very good time was had by all. We can be proud of the young people from our state,. They all gave a good showing.

Hopefully the pandemic is going away and our Lodges can get back to the normal way of operating. I am always amazed at how the Elks support their local communities in so many ways. Hope to see everyone in May and God bless.

IEA TREASURER

George Hornung

Members all,

How time flies! We are nearing the end of another great year in Elkdom. Make sure your lodge dues are in order for the coming year. The state dues come up on May 1st, so let's keep the Illinois Elks a reality once more!

In March, we had another great regional Hoop Shoot contest. Once again we competed in Iowa City and had another great turnout. It's a great opportunity for our youth to compete and have fun at the same time!

With the new fiscal year, let's be thinking about the ENF Goal Grants and the Veterans grants. The ENF Goal Award has been increased to $2,000 from the previous $1,500 grant! This is great news and I'm sure every local Lodge has a very worthy place for this money to be placed. The Veterans Grant will remain at $1000 to help our amazing veterans that we so appreciate in our communities. There is also an additional veterans grant that requires your respective Districts to raise $1000 or more to receive another $1000 to use in said District. In addition to these grants, don't forget the scholarship grants of $600/student. With the costs of going to further a students education these grants are a nice contribution to their education.

I hope every lodge submitted a candidate for Elk of the Year, Exalted Ruler, Secretary, and Lodge of the Year. These awards mean a lot and are a great way to say Thank You! They all are very deserving of these awards. As we all know the year can slip by quickly so now is the time to get in gear to make your respective Lodges successful again. It's a great feeling! Don't let it slip away!

In closing, I wish each and every lodge another successful year! It's a great feeling and it makes the IEA proud! Good luck to all!

Mid-Winter Meeting Banquet Highlights

The Mid-Winter meeting was held January 20-23, 2022 at the Wyndham Hotel in Springfield, IL. The Banquet and Awards Ceremony was held on Saturday evening.

Grand Exalted Ruler Keith Mills and wife, Amy, were the guests of honor. The pair travelled in from their home state of Idaho.

GER Mills gave a rousing speech to the Elks in attendance and encouraged members to think about other Elks as an extension of family and the importance of recruiting and retaining members.

IEA President Jim Cusack and his wife, Eileen, presented Mills and his wife with Illinois themed gifts and thank them for visiting the IEA and the great state of Illinois.

Debbie Wallace and Ole Ohlsson were presented with the awards for Chairs Competitions and 11 O'clock Toast, respectively.

The ENF received an additional $23,328 in donations at the Banquet and the Children's Care Corp. received $32,556.44.

A great meal and lots of camaraderie were enjoyed by those in attendance and officers looks forward to welcoming Elks to the Annual Meeting in May.

Committee Reports from the Mid-Winter meeting can be found on page 5.

GER Mills and wife receiving show off the gifts received from IEA President Cusack and wife.

The first ladies exchange an embrace for gratitude.

11 O'clock Toast winner Ole Ohlsson receive plaque from GER Mills.

From the Editor...

Hello all! I hope 2022 has been kind to lodges and members so far this year! As we get back to more "normal" meetings and events, I want to remind you to take pictures and send your Newsette articles in! I bet you'd be surprised how inspiring the articles are to other lodges. Not only do they give a little motivation to keep up, but also help them generate ideas for new events at their lodges!

Your creativity and hardwork deserves to be recognized so remember to submit to the Newsette!

Happy Reading,

Liz

Illinois Elks Association

ANNUAL CONVENTION

May 12-15, 2022 Springfield – Wyndham Hotel

Thursday, May 12, 2022

		PLACE/ROOM
11:30 AM-5:00 PM	**Convention Office**	**Plaza 4**
1:00 PM-5:00 PM	**Executive Committee**	**Conference Ctr 3**

Friday, May 13, 2022

8:00 AM-5:00 PM	**Convention Office**	**Plaza 4**
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	**Convention Committee**	**Rendezvous**
10:00 AM-12:00 PM	**Advisory Committee**	**Rendezvous**
12:00 PM-7:00 PM	**Convention Registration**	**Mezzanine**
1:00 PM-4:30 PM	**General Business Session** Nomination of Officers - 1:05-2:00 PM - State Pres,1st Vice Pres 2nd Vice Pres, 3rd Vice Pres, Secretary & Treasurer	**Capitol/Illinois**
2:00-4:30 PM	**General Business Session – Closed Session** District Vice President Reports, Budget Presentation & Committee/Commission Chairmen Reports	**Capitol/Illinois**

Saturday, May 14, 2022

6:30 AM-6:00 PM	**Convention Office**	**Plaza 4**
7:00 AM-12:00 PM	**Convention Registration**	**Mezzanine**
7:30-9:00 AM	**Board of Directors /Executive Committee - Continental**	**Prairie**
8:00-9:00 AM	**Athletic Commission**	**Ambassador**
8:00-9:00 AM	**Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation**	**Conference Ctr 4**
8:00-9:00 AM	**Secretaries Association**	**Plaza 3**
8:00-9:30 AM	**Publication Corporation**	**Conference Ctr 1**
8:00-10:00 AM	**District Deputies & Esquires - Continental Breakfast**	**Conference Ctr 2**
8:00-10:00 PM	**Leading Knights Training**	**Rendezvous**
9:00-10:00 AM	**Exalted Rulers Meet W/ Executive Committee**	**Embassy**
9:00-10:00 AM	**Lodge Treasurers**	**Plaza 3**
9:00-10:00 AM	**Lodge Trustees Training**	**Prairie**
10:00-11:00 AM	**General Business Session - Spouses & Guests Welcome** Children's Care Corporation Awards, Vet Service Awards, Leading Knights Training & Scholarship Awards	**Capitol/Illinois**
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	**Memorial Service by 2nd Vice President Floyd F. Schmidt**	**Capitol/Illinois**
12:00-1:00 PM	**Ladies Luncheon** *Entrée: Chicken Salad croissant sandwich w/ Broccoli and Cheese Soup* *Dessert: Sherbet Cost: Pre-registration $19.00/On-site $21.00*	**Ambassador**
1:00-4:00 PM	**General Business Session** Committee/Commission Chairmen Reports Continue Unfinished Business - Adoption of Budget Election of Officers (Credentials Required)	**Capitol/Illinois**
1:30-5:00 PM	**PGER Meet with Lodges and Individuals**	**Conference Ctr 3**
3:00-4:00 PM	**Drug Awareness Program**	**Conference Ctr 4**
3:00-4:00 PM	**Hoop Shoot/Soccer Shootout Program**	**Plaza 1**
5:00-6:00 PM	**Illinois Elks Association - Reception**	**Prairie/Illinois**
6:00-9:00 PM	**Illinois Elks Association - Dinner** Honoring 2022-2022 Class of Exalted Rulers *Salad: Classic Caesar Salad, Entrée: Smothered Chicken w/Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Corn, Dessert: Apple Pie* *Cost: Pre-registration $30.00/On-site $32.00 Dress: Business Suit* Awards Program –American Essay Contest Winners, Veteran's Volunteer of the year, All-American Lodge, State Winners, District Vice President of the year, Secretary of the Year, Exalted Ruler of the Year, Lodge of the Year, Elk of the Year, and Family of the Year	**Illinois/Prairie**

Sunday, May 15, 2022

7:00 AM-10:00 AM	**Convention Office**	**Plaza 4**
7:30 AM-8:00 AM	**Room Reservations for the September Convention**	**Capitol/Illinois**
8:00 AM-10:00 AM	**General Business Session** Installation of 2022-2023 State & District Officers	**Capitol/Illinois**

IEA CONVENTION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

All Elks, male & female, must register for convention functions: FEES: Pre-Registration $ 10.00/ On-site $20.00 Pre-Registration deadline is April 30, 2022. By pre-registering for the convention, Lady's luncheon, and banquet, you will give the Credentials Committee time to make sure your credentials will be waiting for you at the check–in desk and will also assist the Convention Committee in working with the Wyndham in planning the workshops, Luncheon and banquet.

Registration badges will not be handed out at registration until the COVID Acknowledgment Waiver has been signed. Waivers can be found on the website www.illinoiselks.org or in the Newsette.

Registration Badges are Necessary to Attend All Functions, including hospitality rooms.

ROOM RESERVATIONS

Room Cancelation cut-off will be April 12, 2022.

All mailings must be postmarked prior to the above date to avoid additional late charges. Rooms canceled after the above date will forfeit their deposit.

HOSPITALITY ROOMS

The Hospitality room assignments will be determined by the Pre-registration numbers per district excluding the state president's Area. The remaining District Hospitality Rooms will be assigned following the close of Pre-Registration then sent to the Jr Trustee.

All Hospitality Rooms shall be CLOSED from 5:00pm until the conclusion of the banquet on Saturday, May 14, 2022, and during all Business sessions.

No one will be permitted in the hospitality rooms without proper convention credentials Those not displaying proper credentials WILL be required to leave.

Please see Page 4 for registration form and COVID Guidelines.

IEA CONVENTION INFORMATION

IEA SPRING ANNUAL SPRING MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-registration Deadline
APRIL 30, 2022

Scott Flota, Chairman
Credentials Committee
P.O. Box 1484
Mt.Vernon, IL 62864
scottflota@gmail.com

Pre-registration Deadline
APRIL 30, 2022

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ILLINOIS ELKS ASSOCIATION

Illinois Elks Annual SPRING Meeting
Registration Form
Annual Meeting May 13-15 2022
Springfield – Wyndham Hotel

Please make a reservation for the following:

Pre – registration - $10.00 After APRIL 30 ,2022 ---$20.00

ELK#1_____ Non-Elk Spouse_____

ELK#2 (Only if spouse of Elk #1) _____

Lodge_____ No._____ Dist._____

Title ELK#1_____
(To be typed on Convention Badge)

Title ELK#2_____
(To be typed on Convention Badge)

Registration Fee @ $10.00 ALL **ELKS (Male and Female)** $_____
If both male and female are members
Both pay fee (**no exceptions**)

Ladies luncheon @ $18-$20 $_____

Saturday Evening Banquet @ $30.00/$32.00* $_____

Total Amount Enclosed $_____

***Cost of meal if check received post marked after APRIL 30,2022**
Or purchased on-site

Home Address_____

City_____ Zip_____

Phone (___) _____ E-mail_____

COVID WAIVERS

Attendance at the Annual meeting will require a signed Registration acknowledgment waiver to attend. Please be aware that attendance at convention may pose a risk of exposure to and illness from infectious diseases, including but not limited to SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) and its potential variants. While preventative measures aimed at reducing exposure to infectious diseases have been taken for this event and may reduce the risk of exposure and infection, the risk of illness does exist.

CONVENTION COVID GUIDELINES AND PRECAUTIONS

Safety measures and plans are constantly evolving to provide the safest event possible; however, please be aware that the convention will observe Centers for Disease Control (CDC) plus local government recommendations and guidelines regarding COVID-19 safety measures and precautions.

All Convention attendees will be recommended to:

- wear face masks when in public convention spaces
- practice effective social distancing by remaining six feet from others at all times
- wash their hands frequently during the convention
- monitor their own health on a daily basis to be alert for known symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Do not attend convention events if you feel any of these symptoms.

It should also be noted the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now recommends that individuals who are NOT fully vaccinated shall be required to cover their nose and mouth with a face covering in a public place and are unable to maintain a 6-foot social distance. This requirement applies whether in an indoor space, such as a store, or in a public outdoor space were maintaining a 6-foot social distance is not always possible. CDC also advises all individuals, including those who are fully vaccinated, are required to wear a face covering on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation and in transportation hubs, such as airports and train and bus stations; in congregate facilities, such as correctional facilities and homeless shelters; and in health care settings.

Registration acknowledgment waiver can be found on the Illinois Elks website to print and bring with you. Forms can also be signed on-site. Please monitor the Illinois Elks Association website https://illinoiselks.org/ for updates to these guidelines.

Find us on @ilelksnewsette

Mid-Winter Committee Meeting Reports Summaries

Youth Activities

The first order of business discussed at Mid-Winter meeting was Teen of the Year deadlines. They are due by April 15, 2022. If a student wins the District level the student's application will be forwarded to the State level for final competition. The deadline for that is April 30, 2022.

One male and one female could win $1000 for 1st, $750 for 2nd and $500 for 3rd. First place winners will be guests of IEA at Annual meeting.

Please do not share the Lodge Grading scale with schools or students and make sure to use the Nomination form.

Submitted by
Greg Collins, Chairman

Ritual

The Ritual Committee held the annual Individual Chairs Competition, the 11 O'clock Toast Contest, and the newly instituted Flag Charge Contest throughout the day Saturday. Firstly, I want to recognize the judges: Lowell Armstrong, John Bayler and Patrick Bevis.

The results of the Individual Chairs Competition (Esquire, Esteemed Loyal Knight, Esteemed Leading Knight and Exalted Ruler) all went to Debbie Wallace of Fairfield Lodge #1631. Debbie was also the winner of the Flag Charge Contest.

The winner of the 11 O'clock Toast was Ole Ohlsson of Champaign-Urbana Lodge #2497.

Debbie and Ole will represent Illinois at the Grand Lodge Convention in Atlanta this summer.

I would also like to thank participants, judges, and Past Grand Lodge Ritual Committeeman Roger Quinn.

Submitted by
Ray Summers, Chairman

Antlers

Discussion was held regarding the starting of programs at lodges. Anna-Jonesboro is trying to get one started.

Information will be shared with Youth Activities committee.

Submitted by
Lori Bump, Chairman

Elk's National Foundation

Among the topics discussed was the importance of the District Chairs communicating grant status to their local lodges.

Additionally, ideas for acquiring additional funds by partnering with local businesses that also do charity work in the community.

We stressed the benefits of the Fidelity Club Monthly giving program and will urge more of our members to donate via monthly giving program.

Finally, we reminded all of the deadlines for submissions and grand applications and donations.

At the banquet, $23,328.00 was raised.

Submitted by
Jeff Sterr, Chairman

Drug Awareness

The Drug Awareness Program held its session and reviewed how we must continue to grow the Elks Drug Awareness Program in every way possible and in every lodge to stay ahead of the game and help youth in the State of Illinois.

We had a presentation from DEA agent Greg Czaczkowski on the One Pill Can Kill campaign.

- The number of DEA-seized counterfeit pills with fentanyl has jumped nearly 430% since 2019.

- Officials report a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing at least 2 mg of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose.

- Drug traffickers are using fake pills to exploid the opiod crisis and prescription drug misuse. CDC reports more than 93,000 people died last year of an overdose in the US - the highest ever recorded.

We reviewed TEENzone and DAP websites.

Please remember to enter their use and that of the Red Ribbons given at the September meeting.

Submitted by
Frank Burr, Chairman

State Easter Bunny

Discussion was held regarding visits, candy and allergy issues. We also answered questions on where bunny costumes can be rented.

District reports were passed out with due date of April 30.

Submitted by
Lori Bump, Chairman

Orientation

Who should be on the Orientation Committee? - Any member who have a "Past" in their title.

If you are a "Past" anything - Past President, Past ER, Past Trustee, etc... - you should be on the Orientation Committee and you should be active right now. You should be helping to guide the Officer behind you or maybe a member who is taking on their first office in your lodge. Throughout the State there are Officers who are going to be assuming new roles in Elkdom. For some it can be scary, for some it will come easy, and for some it's like walking into the dark of night without a full moon to light their way. This is why it is extremely important for all of us who have a "Past" in our title to be the beacon of light to help guide their way.

In the past few years I have talked about how important it is to present a good Orientation Meeting for our new members. But right now as we are in the process of starting a new Lodge Year it is equally important to orientate the new officers in our lodge, our districts and our state. Now please understand there is a fine line to walk when trying to orientate a new officer. You do not want to dictate how they would conduct their year, but instead you want to inform them of their duties per statues and bylaws, and then let them know you are a phone call, text message, or an email away if they want your advice or help.

We also apply this to new members who only know a little about what being an Elk member truly is. This is why Orientation of new members if crucial. We must welcome them into our family; we must pass on our expectations of how they can assist grow and support the lodge. We also must impress the pride in our country, the honor and care we provide to our veterans, and our hope and support of the children in our communities. We want to make them proud to become part of an organization with such an outstanding record of service to others.

I'm asking all of you if you are "Past" at any level to please offer your help to the new officers in our organization 2022-2023 can be a great year in Elkdom!

Submitted by
Sharon Kay Dirck, Chairman

Lapsation

Prior to discussion targeted specifically to delinquency, current state membership numbers were reviewed as part of the membership presentation. Given the effects of lodge restrictions and activity cancellations due to two years of COVID, overall membership levels are better than might be expected.

The number of delinquent members in Illinois is just under 1,700. Lodge officers, secretaries, and member/lapsation committee have to pull out the stops to hopefully bring many of these Elks to current status, as only a few remain in 2021-2022 year! A sample of mailing the member's Home & History page (from CLMS), and using them as space to write personal appeal notes was demonstrated.

Discussions of the possible reduction of delinquent numbers through the Grand Lodge automated biling program was held. Even if this new option is being used, getting a group of volunteers to look for help from Elks who know delinquents might be helpful. Phone calls and text meessage should be employed as well as emails. Personal, one-on-one discussions should not be ruled out.

The importance of remind delinquents of all good works the Elks do in their respective communities was emphasized. Sending lists, photos, recent articles and so forth is encouraged. Reiterating the theme that Elks Care-Elks Share.

Maybe remind them that regarding being a member of our organization "we do it because we are Elks."

Submitted by
Merle Evans, Chairman

Final Credentials

Mid-Winter Meeting Numbers
Pre-Registered 298
On-Site 35
Spouses 53
Total at Meeting 386

Banquet Total 160
Luncheon Total 110

Thank you to all who attended!

Submitted by
Scott Flota, Chairman

Membership

As of January 21st
Initiated 970
Demit-In 61
Reinstated 490
Total Gain 1521

Non Pay Loss 336
Expelled 4
Transfers 97
Demits 35
Deaths 353
Total Loss 860

Current Membership 23,508
Gain Minus Loss 661
Unpaid 1659
Current Loss 998

Membership by District
West Central -57
West -131
South Central -243
South -286
Northwest -119
North -37
East Central -46
East -79

Submitted by
Merle Evans, Chairman

State Committee

At the meeting, fundraising was discussed. Ho-Do pins were mailed out to lodges and are sold for $20. Also, please continue selling calendars.

Smiley Seibert, Jim Goldsborough, Sandy Begue and Don Keohler were appointed to the Nominating Committee. They will report nominations for the Board at the next CCC meeting.

The Insurance Committee will be looking into our current insurance and will be suggesting changes we may need to consider at our next meeting.

At the banquet, approximately $32,550 was donated by multiple lodges and individuals. Thank you to all for your charitable contributions. Additional funds collected brought our weekend total to approximately $46,500.

Submitted by
Tawn Williams, Chairman

BROTHERLY LOVE

ELKS ATHLETICS

2022 Elks Hoop Shoot Program

If you weren't setting in Iowa in March 19th you missed some awesome free-throw shooting from all the contestants. Our Kids did their best to be number one, but were faced with other competitors that wanted the number one spot also.

Thank you to our fellow members that came to cheer on all contestants and their families. It's great to have so many members that believe in Hoop Shoot and take the time to follow it thru to the end.

- 8/9 Boy Jordan Johnson (South District) 2nd place
- 8/9 Girl Conley Tithof (North District) Regional Champion
- 10/11 Boy Luke Boldt (South Central District) 4th Place
- 10/11 Girl Maggie Eskra (West District) 4th Place
- 12/13 Boy Boston Isaacs (South Central District) 2nd Place
- 12/13 Girl Addion Elliot (South Central District) Regional Champion

Addison is also a 2-time State Champ and this year's Dick Froeschle Award winner for highest girls score overall.

Addison and Conley will be headed to Chicago at the end of April for the National Competition.

Now is the time, if you know any of our champions to give them a big thank you. Without them our program would not exist. I would like to thank the parents. I wish we had more time and better place to visit, but I enjoyed the time spent with you and your children. It was great meeting out of state contestants too! The 4-hour drive that it takes to get to the Regionals was well worth it after everything was over and the kids were saying "good bye and thank you for the great time." If it wasn't for them we wouldn't be here great feelings. The long drive home by yourself is spent thinking about how we can make it better for the kids that compete next year.

Now that the Nationals are close it's time for your Lodge to start getting your programs moving. Outside shooting at a park is great if it isn't too noisy. See ya at the next State meeting for more updates.

Submitted by
Jim Swisher, State Hoop Shoot Chairman

All the Regional shooters and their parents pictured with IEA officers and members.

Maggie Eskra
4th place 10/11 Girls

Luke Boldt - 4th Place 10/11 Boys

Jordan Johnson
2nd Place 8/9 Boys

Boston Isaacs
2nd Place 12/13 Boys

Addison Elliot
1st Place 12/13 Girls
Dick Froeschle Winner
for Highest Score Girl
Overall

Conley Tithof
1st Place 8/9 Girls

Great job to all and good luck at Nationals, Addison & Conley!

Let's Play Around @ the IEA Golf Tournament - July 21- 24

The annual Elks Golf Tournament is being held at the newly named Oaks at Rivers Edge in Pontiac, IL. This year's tournament is hosted by Pontiac #1019 Elks Lodge. Practice rounds start on Thursday, July 21. Tournament play begins Friday morning for all lady Elk members. Friday afternoon men over 50 take the course. Friday night's theme- "Hot Summer Night" features a buffet dinner, raffles, and band on the patio.

Men and lady Elk Members may play again on Saturday. Spouses are encouraged to play. The format for both days is 18 hole stroke play. Cost per round is $75 which includes golf, cart, lunch, favors and prize pool. Mulligans and 50/50 tickets can be purchased.

Information and entry forms were available at the January convention and will again be available at the May convention. Elk members needing more information please email- jaynmanning@yahoo.com, or nickilynn04@gmail.com, or timary86@hotmail.com.

Oglesby #2360 answer the call from Food Pantry

The Elks of the Illinois Valley, Oglesby #2360 used an Elks National Foundation (ENF) Spotlight Grant for $2,000 to help the Illinois Valley Food Pantry with their Christmas food distribution. Elks Exalted Ruler Lee Thompson is pictured above left with Mary Jo Credi, Executive Director of the local Food Pantry, checking some of the food for distribution. Elks Care and Elks Share.

Oak Lawn #2254 makes for a great December with Grants

Oak Lawn #2254 used funds from an ENF Beacon Grant, Gratitude Grant, and an IEA Grant for its annual December Needy Family Program. On December 18, 2021, eighty families were given boxes and bags of food and gifts to help make their Christmas a little brighter. The recipients drove up in their cars and the food and gifts were put into their trunks. A few of the Lodge volunteers are pictured. They are, left to right, Alice Mahoney, Jeff Mahoney, John Chickerillo, Sr., ER Lynda Riffice, Carol Neth, Daisy Perez, Ike Drent, Brian Carlson and John Chickerillo, Jr.

Want to show what your lodge has been up to?

Send it to the Newsette!

ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

I ask for your support in the May Election and would be honored to serve you as your IEA Third Vice President. Thank You, Bill Gandolfi

Two-Time ER • Lodge Treasurer • Trustee
Chairman of Trustees • Chairman of Numerous Lodge Committees
NW District VP • Chairperson of Several District Committees
Two-Time DDGER • Twice a Special Rep for Two Districts
IEA State Chair for Audit & Accounting • IEA Treasurer Trainer

I have been a proud member of this incredible organization and had the privilege of being a part of Oglesby Lodge 2360 for just over 50 years. During that time, I have served in numerous positions at the lodge, district, and state levels, and at Grand Lodge as a two-time DD.

I am retired after a long successful business career. I started as a retail assistant department manager and worked my way to CFO, President, and CEO in several companies with sales between five and eight hundred million, between seventy and four thousand employees. This spanned several industries including five years as Director of the Management and Financial Training Institutes for Parkland College. For the last ten of my career years, I Consulted and Trained for small to mid-sized companies and not-for-profits. Consulting was mostly in business re-engineering, efficiency, the structure of operations, and finance. I trained in Management/Leadership, team building, time management, finance, and interspersal interactions in a business setting.

My education includes a BS in Accounting with Minors in Business Administration and Psychology, MS in Accounting (specialty: Forensic Accounting), and an MBA specializing in Not-for-Profits and Government. Plus, numerous seminars and courses on a variety of topics, and I don't intend to stop learning.

When I look at our organization, six areas jump out as needing our concentrated efforts and are so critical to our future success:

First: Is of course membership and retention

Second: Attracting and keeping younger members

Third: Building on our youth programs, plus finding ways to get more current parental and family involvement (both of which also have the added benefit of building membership)

Fourth: Is something COVID brought to the forefront, financial management and more education at our lodges

Fifth: Improving communications at and between all levels

Finally: Getting more overall family-oriented programs and involvement is bound to help with the first three, and in today's world attracting younger members with families.

In closing, I look forward to the opportunity to meet you and hear and discuss your thoughts and ideas about our great organization and then collaborate with you to further its success.

LODGE NEWS

Meet the Candidate

for 3rd Vice President

David Neel

Hi all, I'm Dave Neel from Dixon #779 and a candidate for 3rd Vice President of the IEA. I am a 24 year member of Lodge #779 and the IEA. I became an officer (Chaplain) in 2004 and was elected Exalted Ruler in 2006.

I have been Chairman of the Board for the past seven years and have held numerous Chairmanships at the Lodge and District level over the years.

I am currently District ENF Chairman. I made my way through the District level and served as Jr. Trustee back to back years and served as District Vice President in 2012 and was honored to have served as DDGER in 2014.

In 2012 I became IEA Orientation Chairman and I joined the Credentials Committee in 2015, and am currently still involved with. I was asked to be State Chaplain in 2017. It was a great honor to serve in this position and I was proud to do it.

I am a dedicated Elk and am excited and anxious to have the chance to serve the membership as I work my way up the Vice Presidential ladder. I want to improve communication amongst the membership and am looking forward to traveling to as many lodges in the state that I can.

I have been happily married to my wife Sandra for 18 years. I am also a retired Highway Maintainer for the State of Illinois. Being retired I will have plenty of time to do the work of the IEA.

Sitting at the credentials table I have met and talked to a lot of dedicated Elks and look forward to working with and for all of you.

I would appreciate your support in the upcoming election.

Thanks,
Dave Neel

Your Lodge Activities could be featured here!
Submit articles, pictures, good deeds, events and more in the Newsette!

Email Liz at
ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

Social Media Refresher

Social Media Platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter, have become useful tools for spreading Elks information, recruiting new members and acknowledging Lodge accomplishments. It's important to remember Elks' posting guidelines to create a safe and successful social media atmosphere.

Please consider using the following social media disclaimer for your Lodge:

- We reserve the right to remove comments and or materials from the Elks Lodge social media when those comments:
- are hateful or mean-spirited.
- are potentially libelous, obscene, or sexually explicit.
- are personal attacks, or involve profanity or insults.
- are private or public information published without Lodge consent.
- violate any law or promote the violation of any law.
- contribute to or encourage discrimination or harassment.
- display photos of Members drinking or smoking, or considered harmful to the Elks' image and reputation.
- contain the names of minors.
- divulge Lodge business that may violate your Obligation.
- are not positive and informative.
- We reserve the right to terminate someone's ability to post when any of the aforementioned has been posted.
- Don't dive in head first. Social media beginners should focus on a few things and do them well.
- Don't accept non-Members as friends.
- Don't post photos of members drinking or smoking.
- Don't post photos that may be "harmful" to the Elks image and reputation.
- Don't post names of children.
- Don't post Lodge business that would be in violation of your Obligation.

Keys to Newsette

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

A candidate for any IEA state office may submit at no charge one proclamation or endorsement from the candidate's lodge (or district), or a letter of intent. Copy with or without photograph shall not exceed 13 printed column inches (about 35 words per column inch). A candidate may also submit a photograph and biography, not to exceed 100 words, for publication in the spring issue of the Newsette at no charge. All other copy and photographs shall be considered paid advertising and shall be charged at the same rates as regular advertisements.

ADVERTISE YOUR SPECIAL LODGE EVENT!

Golf Outing • Poker Run • Fundraisers
$75 per insertion of business-card size ad or
$65 per insertion on four-issue contract!
Call or e-mail us!

SECRETARIES!

WE WANT YOUR ADDRESS CORRECTIONS!

Send to: Children's Care Corp.,
P.O. Box 222, Chatham, IL 62629-0222
Fax: (217) 483-2131
E-Mail: helpkids@elkscare.org

Note: Address corrections go to the Children's Care Corp. because that's who maintains the mailing list. Note, too, that address corrections made through the Post Office cost the Newsette – and you Elks – hundreds of dollars per issue. Please help us cut that cost by keeping us posted with your address corrections.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

Send to: Newsette Editor, 414 S. Eaton,
Edinburg, IL 62531

E-Mail:
ilelksnewsette@gmail.com
For information, call Editor Liz Conaway
at (217) 827-3799

Newsette Deadlines
Summer - June 15 **NEXT ISSUE!**
Fall - July 20
Mid-Winter - Nov. 21
Spring - March 22

Meet the Candidate

for 3rd Vice President

Gail L. Sessler

I am Gail L. Sessler of Mendota #1212 and a candidate for 3rd Vice-President of the IEA. I have been a member at Mendota since March 20, 2003. I served as Exalted Ruler in 2007. I was awarded officer of the year for 2007-2008. Since April 2009 to current, I am the lodge secretary. At the local level, I have served or still am serving on several committees such as ENF, Children Care Corporation, Hoop Shoot, Americanism, Scholarship, and Orientation.

At the district level, I served as secretary in 2011-12 and currently 2021-22. Vice-President of the Northwest District in 2016. Since 2009 to the present, I serve as the District Drug Awareness Chair. Currently at the state level, I have been serving as Co-Chair of the Scholarship since 2012.

In 2018 and 2020, I served as the position of District Deputy of the GER. I was appointed as a Trustee for a Defunct Lodge in 2020. I was appointed as Auditor to the DDGER in 2021 in the Northwest District.

I retired 4 years ago from the Illinois Department of Corrections with 25 years and 2 months of service. I was an educator for about 12 years with the remaining time I was in management overseeing the education department. In addition to my bachelor's degree of Mathematics Education with a Spanish minor, I hold a master's degree in Educational Administration. From a young age I loved to cook with my mother; thus, I also hold a Food Manager's Certificate.

The Elks to me is like one large family that extends from across the entire state as well as the whole United States. I have met many Elks from bowling at the state and national levels of Elks as well as attending the state meetings and the Grand Lodge meetings. This is one of the main reasons why I love being a member of the B.P.O.E. Another main reason I am proud to be an Elk is the good deeds we as Elks provide back to our communities.

If given the opportunity to serve as the 3rd Vice-President of the IEA, I would commit and dedicate my time and ability to the IEA and the good deeds that what the Elks represent. I would appreciate your support in the upcoming election.

Thank you for your consideration,
Gail L. Sessler

Du Quoin #884 doles out Grants

Du Quoin #884 recently were awarded a $5500 Beacon grant. A total of $4600 was distributed to the following programs (corresponding photos labeled): Pinckneyville Summer Free Lunch Program (Photo 1), the Elverado Falcon Food Bag (Photo 2), Du Quoin Weekend Warriors Food Program (Photo 3), DAR Community Classroom Program (Photo 4) and the Du Quoin Public Library (Photo 5). The library will use the funds to purchase resume software, additional computer equipment and to build a kiddie corral where children can safely play while their parents use the library.

Mt. Vernon #819 sponsor Honor Wreaths

On November 14, 2021, Elks Lodge #819 recently sponsored 67 wreaths from Honor Wreaths For Veterans (https://www.honorwreathsforveterans.org/) to be placed on the graves of Veterans at Mt. Vernon Memorial Gardens Cemetery for Wreaths Across America on December 18, 2021.

Pictured from left is Elks Lodge #819 Leading Knight Bob Kane, Lt. Colonel Samantha Wells

StanfordSamantha Wells Stanford, Sheila Forristall (Both receiving the check on behalf of Mt. Vernon Memorial Gardens), and Elks Lodge #819 Veterans Services chairman Keith Hertenstein.

LODGE NEWS

Robinson #1188 Christmas debit cards for Veterans Annual Auction fund raiser

For over 25 years, Robinson #1188 has been conducting an annual Lodge auction which has resulted in raising hundreds of thousands of dollars of Christmas funds for the purchase of debit cards and other items to be handed out to military veterans who reside in some form of local assisted living.

The auction items were donated by local businesses and individuals. Those items generated over $20,000.00 at auction in 2021 towards this great Veteran's cause.

The fund raiser provides a great opportunity for the Lodge to come together and give back to the community and our fellow veterans who served our country. May God bless these brave Veterans.

Top Right photo shows the Auction Committee Members shown delivering debit cards at a local assisted living facility. Pictured left to right: Mike Swaner, Mike McSchooler, Leslie Swaner, and NN Garrard.

Bottom right and left show Christmas quilt that was donated by the Wabash Valley Correctional Center of Sullivan, IN for this year's auction and the auction items.

Pana #1261 distributes Grants to local groups

Recently, Pana #1261 distributed their grant money to these local groups: Pana Fire Dept $500, Camp New Hope $500, Loaves and Fishes and Oconee food pantries $1000 each, Safe Passage program $500, Pana Skate park $1000, Education Foundation $500, Easter Egg Hunt $500, The Autism and Movement Project $3500 and Quad County's No Veteran Dies Alone program. Thank you Grand Lodge and ENF for the ability for us to help these programs.

ILELKSNEWSETTE@GMAIL.COM

Ottawa #588 donates to local organization thanks to Grants

Ottawa #588 recently donated Gratitude, Beacon and Spotlight grants to local organizations.

Photo 1: $2,500 was donated to Friendship Village. Left to right: Elks member Angie Robinson, Friendship Village Director Anthony Barrett,Elks Lodge ER Lynne Schlink, Elks Lodge Trustee Kyle Creedon, Friendship Village Outreach Coordinator Allison Perez and Elks Member Tom Robinson.

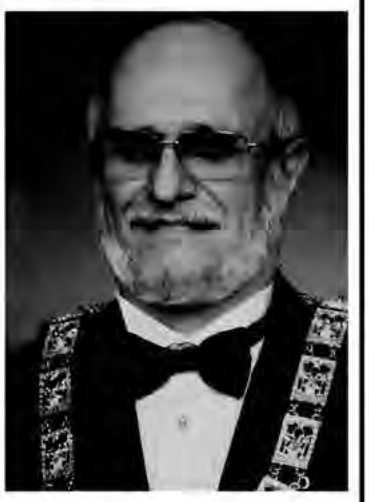
Photo 2: $2,750 was donated to the Ottawa Salvation Army and $2,750 was donated to A Servant's Heart. Left to right: Salvation Army Rep Rachelle May, Elks Lodge Secretary Judy Ilgen, Elks Lodge ER Lynne Schlink, Elks Trustee Kyle Creedon, and Servants Heart Rep Sonjia Martin.

Picture 3: Ottawa also celebrated a new member initiation when Angelina Robinson, wife of current member Thomas, officially became an Elk! Left to right: ER Lynne Schlink, new member Angelina Robinson, Secretary Judy Ilgen and Loyal Knight Sara Smith.

Meet the Candidate

for 3rd Vice President

Bill Gandolfi



I am Bill Gandolfi and have had the honor of belonging to this remarkable organization and to Oglesby #2360 for just over fifty Years. I have been heavily involved in the Elks at the local, district, state, and national level for over 25 years. This includes twice as ER, twice as DD, twice as a Special Rep, IEA Chairperson for Audit & Accounting, IEA Treasurer Trainer, and numerous other positions.

A little bit more about my background, I am retired after a successful forty plus year business career. Starting as an assistant department manager and progressing to CFO, President, and CEO of several companies doing between five and eight hundred million dollars in sales with over four thousand employees.

On a personal note, I spend a lot of time on my numerous hobbies (too numerous, lol). I have two sons, a daughter, and seven grandchildren. In addition to spending as much time as possible with them, and my involvement with the Elks, one of my greatest loves has been being involved in youth programs. This includes everything from coaching sports to programs helping kids stay off drugs. Kids are amazing when you take the time to listen to them and see what their needs truly are. I am a lifetime learner and intend to never stop. I have a BS in Accounting, an MS in accounting, and an MBA.

I have the ability, experience, and time to commit to the IEA to assist it in growing and staying the outstanding and successful organization that it is. Which will in turn help with the growth, development, and success of our local lodges and members. I look forward to meeting you and listening to your ideas about how to help our organization grow and prosper. For additional information on my background, involvement with the Elks, and my thoughts on where we can go from here, please see my ad in this addition of the Newsette.

I would appreciate your support in the IEA May Election for 3rd VP.

Thank you,
Bill

Harrisburg #1058 distributes totes to homeless

Harrisburg #1058 produced sixty (60) tote bags to be distributed to our area homeless population. The bags contained hats, scarf, gloves, thermal socks, hygienic supplies and a dental kit. The bags were delivered to the Christian Community Compassion Center for distribution to their clientele, our homeless community. Funds for this project were received from the Elks National Foundation through the Community Investment Program Gratitude Grant. Pictured are (L to R) Carmen Conci #1058 Grant Coordinator, Jeff Thompson PER, Mona Crim 4Cs Director, Mark Adams Lodge Treasurer, and Nancy Thompson.

Harrisburg #1058's Christmas gift bags

Harrisburg #1058 distributed (49) Christmas gift bags to veterans in our local Senior Care facilities; Shawnee Rose, Hollybrook, Brookstone & three Saline Care homes (Harrisburg, Eldorado & Carrier Mills). The packages contained a blanket throw, skid-free socks, scarf, toboggan, puzzle book with pen, snacks & hygiene products. Pictured above are Lodge Members Jeff Thompson (PER) and wife Nancy (on right) in one of their deliveries to the staff @ Saline Care. This is the second consecutive year we've been able to extend Christmas gifts, thanks & gratitude to our local veterans and intend to make it an annual event. Elks Lodge #1058 received a donation from the Illinois Elks Association which helped to facilitate.

100 years of awesome; Dixon #779's Gearhart Jr. celebrates a milestone birthday

Dixon Elks Lodge # 779 had one of our own celebrate his 100th birthday at the Lodge on January 29, 2022 – Orval Gearhart Jr. was born January 29, 1922 – he joined the Dixon Elks Lodge on March 8, 1954 and has been a member for a solid 69 years. Orval served as a B25 Pilot in the South Pacific during World War II – he retired a Lt. Colonel.

Fairfield #1631 hands out numerous grants to local organizations

Fairfield #1631 is pleased to be able to donate to many organizations this year and will continue with more donations throughout the year.

$1000 donation from the Illinois Elks Association Veterans grant was given to Elmer McDuffee with Chapter 80 DAV.

$650 donation from Illinois Elks State Presidents, Elks National Foundation goal was given to Monty and Denise Smith for Christmas for Kids.

$1000 donation from the Elks National Foundation Gratitude grant was given to Brad Sager with the Fairfield City Police Department to assist in purchasing safety gear.

$1500 donation from the Elks National Foundation Gratitude grant was given to Sheriff Chris Otey with the Wayne County Sheriff's Department to assist in purchasing safety gear.

Also given to Sheriff Chris Otey was $3870 donated for the Deptuy Sean Riley Benefit Fund, funds were raised through a special event hosted by Fairfield Elks Lodge for the family of fallen Deputy Sean Riley.

Previously before Christmas - the Lodge was able to participate in the local Angel Tree by buying gifts for some of our local children with a donation of $850.

$1750 donation from the Elks National Foundation Beacon grant was given to Lois and Phillip Cooper with Feed My Sheep.

$2000 donation from the Elks National Foundation Spotlight grant was given to Lois and Phillip Cooper with Feed My Sheep.

Fairfield Elks once again held their Annual Golf Tournament last summer after a short hiatus.

The golf tournament is to raise funds to donate locally to assist the following local programs:

$1000 - Luke Harl, Colton Wilkerson and Brian Turner accepted the check for Y-Fairfield.

$500 - Cathy Bennett accepted a check for Compassion Pregnancy Center in Fairfield.

$500 - Tracy Scranton accepted the check for the Dr. Scranton Memorial Fund.

$500 - Joe, Tylar, Lexi, J.W. and Kenny Mckitrick, Jami, Payton and Kaydence Ellis, Jill McKibben and Larry Ligon accepted the check for the Geff Saddle Club.

$250 - Liz Ann Woodrow accepted the donation for Back the Blue program.

$250 - Andrew Miller accepted the check for the Fairfield Fire Department to assist with their Annual Chilli Supper.

$250 - David Vaughan accepted the check for the Fairfield Rural Fire Department to assist with the Annual Fish Fry.

Donations already distributed previously from the Annual Golf Tournament were given to the following:

$500 to Fairfield Fury girls softball

$500 to Fairfield Girls Volleyball

$500 to Junior Football League.

Fairfield, IL Elks Lodge #1631 is proud to be a part of a great community for over 80 years.

Dozens of egg cartons delivered to the needy by Oak Lawn #2254

On Friday, November 12, 2021 Chicago South Lodge #1596 and Oak Lawn Lodge #2254 worked together to help fill 120 egg cartons for distribution the next day to the needy through an organization entitled Pro Labore Dei.

Pictured are (front row) Jack Riffice, Lynda Riffice ER, Oak Lawn, Ralph Villalovos, Jr., Tina Stone, Jill DiFoggio, Larry Nolan PER, Cheryl Dykstra, Rich Dykstra ER, Chicago South and (back row) Leslie Shields, MeMe Crusing and Butch Crusing.

Dixon #779 serves has Lee County Health Clinic Site

Dixon Lodge #779 was used last year as a covid shot clinic by the Lee County Health Department seventy-five times and by the Illinois State health twice. Plus, the Red Cross had seven blood drives that were hosted by the Lodge and local hospital.

157th Grand Lodge Convention-ATLANTA
July 2-6
Sheraton Atlanta Hotel
165 Courtland St, Atlanta GA 30303

(Please print or type)

Name_____ Spouse/Sig other _____

Title _____ Lodge name/number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Arrival Date _____ **Arrival Time** _____ **Departure Date** _____

Special Accommodations _____

Room Preference 2 Dbl King (Preference not guaranteed. All rooms non-smoking)

The room rate is $150.00 per night, taxes included.
parking 17.00 per night

Room deposit (All except DDGER designates)

Hospitality Room/Person $50 X _____ = _____

TOTAL _____

_____ I do not wish to use the Hospitality Room
_____ I will not be staying with the Illinois delegation, but wish to use the Hospitality Room. (Accommodations not made through the State Housing Chairman or Grand Lodge must have prior approval of the State Housing Chairman or State President to be allowed access to the Hospitality Room.)

Make check payable to: **IEA Housing**

Mail completed form and check to:

Roger Quinn, 3rd VP/Housing Chairman
208 Eisenhower Dr
Philo, Il 61864

Phone: 217-369-8958
email: Rqlq12@yahoo.com
(All changes must be brought to my attention via email)

Reservation deadline: May 20, 2022
Rooms reserved on a first come – first served basis. Illinois has only 100 rooms available.

Champaign/Urbana #2497 helps Savoy Fire Dept. upgrade equipment

Members of the Savoy Fire Department accept a donation of $1000 from the Champaign/Urbana Elks Lodge #2497. The donation will be used to upgrade field equipment.

Representing the lodge was Jeffrey Pribble ER, Dennis Huffman Leading Knight and Lecturing Knight Tim Willis.

Benton #1234 welcome a new generation

On Tuesday February 1, Benton #1234 initiated 7 new members, including lodge ER Vicky Pearce's son Levi (24) and Leading Knight Lori Duniphan's Levi (21). Vicky and Lori are sisters making the boys cousins. It's a great family affair!

CHILDREN'S CARE CORP

Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation

P.O. Box 222, Chatham, IL 62629-0222
(217) 483-3020 ■ Helpline 1-800-272-0075
Fax (217) 483-2131 ■ E-mail helpkids@elkscare.org

Jan-Mar 2022 Illinois Elks Children's Care Calendar Winners

JANUARY
Bruce Young, Paris; Eric Fiscus, Robinson; Brandon & Jenna Richardt, Mt. Carmel; David Krohe, Beardstown; Scott L. Hood, Charleston; Mary Starr, Dixon; Mike Imes, Belleville; Matthew Doetsch, Des Plaines; William A. Anderson, Jacksonville; Dennis Hendricks, Dixon; Mary Schneider, Pana; Clint Butler, Charleston; Amanda Schnetzler* Carlinville; Donald St. Pierre, Joliet; Marilyn Krocker, Streator; Bryan Nelson, Pontiac; Carl Anderson, McLeansboro; Bob & Sandy Hoekstra, Kankakee; Gordon Ellis, Mt. Vernon; Kevin Bowers, Robinson; Valerie Eastman, Dixon.

FEBRUARY
Rebecca Higgenson, Elmhurst; Scott Winningham, Springfield; Jeffrey Damon Bartz, Jacksonville; Steve Stein, Centralia; Craig Carter, Carmi; Jerry C. Cosgrove, Quincy; Ginnie Boston, Carlinville; Gail Sessler, Mendota; Brenda Breeze, Mt. Vernon; Jenna Rentz, Joliet; John Watermeier, Carlinville; James Davison** Salem; Norman Gates, Oak Lawn; Rick Kingdon, Watseka; Michael Foppe, Belleville; Travis Elliott, Dixon; Roger Boma, Harrisburg; Terrence Taylor, Decatur; Harley Fry, Fairfield; Sharon Miller, Robinson.

MARCH
Bob Paris, Pontiac; Peter Welsh, Lincoln; Donald Johnson, Des Plaines; Pam Waldvogel, Des Plaines; Bill Mier, Chicago South; Mike Gagnor, Carlinville; Kirk Pelton, Charleston; Mikey Thomas, Marion; Donald L. Stanley, Fairfield; Jim Bailey, Robinson; Darlene Buchanan, Streator; Thomas Raftis*, Elmhurst; Sue Kaszuba, Elgin.

$100 **$1,000 *$5,000*

Next Newsette deadline is June 15th!
Send your items to ilelksnewsette@gmail.com

A note from Bill: Goodbye to the past two years

As this year comes to a close I would like to thank all outgoing officers, the membership and the Lodges for their support to the Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation this past year. Coming off Covid we are poised for a good year end, and the start of a great year.

With two week to go the Lodges have raised $150,928.00, the membership $74,843.00, with miscellaneous support of $27,755.00, with a year-end total so far of $253,526.00. On behalf of Board of Directors and myself we thank you tremendously for a job well done. I wish nothing but the best for all the new incoming officers for a great and wonderful new lodge year.

Thanks again,
Bill Block

IECCC Scholarships drop to 43 applicants

The Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation PT/OT Scholarship Program received its lowest number of scholarships ever this year. I can only hope it is because we are coming off two years of shut down. It should be noted however that the majority of the students that have reapplied are college Seniors and 1 st , 2 nd Year Graduates. It is the number of freshmen, sophomores and juniors that are down, coupled with the fact many of the schools were closed or closed to the public to receive scholarship information.

The scholarship applications will now move into the judging phase with the winners to be announced in late May early June.

Good luck to all those student that applied. The 2023-2024 Scholarship Program will be back on line the first week of December at www.illinoisccc.org.

HoDo Pins 50 Year Anniversary

With just about 100 pins left don't forget to purchase your Gold HoDo Pin.

They can be purchased through the office, online at our website: www.illinoiselksccc.org or at a State Convention while they last.

OBTAINED A NEW MEMBER ?

Illinois Elks Association
Newsette

Showcase your lodge's civic activities in the Illinois Elks Newsette!

Send your articles and photos, and show every Illinois Elk what you're proud of in your Lodge. **E-mail them** to Newsette Editor Liz Conaway at ilelksnewsette@gmail.com, mail to 414 S Eaton, Edinburg, IL 62531 or call (217) 827-3799.

Submission deadlines – July 20 for Fall; and Nov. 21 for Mid-Winter, March 22 for Spring, June 15 for Summer

Follow us on Facebook for deadlines, announcements, and to submit stories!

www.facebook.com --- @ilelksnewsette

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Opinions expressed by individual contributors are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Illinois Elks Publication Corporation, Chairman Mark Bump, 812 Bailey Drive, Joliet, IL 60404, telephone (815) 280-9333.

Murphysboro #572 Annual Dart and Live/Silent Auction

On February 26, 2022 the Murphysboro #572 held their 26th Annual Dart Tournament and Auction for the IECCC. Every year in March it is so nice to hear from Merle Evans knowing that Murphysboro Lodge is closing out the fiscal year with a very nice donation for the Kids. This year is no different with B.J. Wyatt & Lynn Porter as coordinators of the Tournament the Lodge delivered a $12,900.00 donation to the IECCC. I would also like to offer a special thanks to the community of Murphysboro whose support for this tournament is enormous. At this year Tournament there were at least 60 Board Sponsors at $100.00 each THANK YOU so much for your support. Congratulations to the two in the picture as they were the First Place Winners of this year's tournament, also pictured are a few Board Sponsors.

Who does what? Test your knowledge of Lodge Officer Positions!

1.) The _____ assists the Exalted Ruler in the performance of his/her duties. Will officiate in the absence of the Exalted Ruler.

2.) The _____ is stationed to the left of the Exalted Ruler during Lodge meetings, he/she recites the opening and closing prayers, and performs the duties required by the Laws of the Order and By Laws of the Lodge.

3.) The _____ is third in command in the absence of the Exalted Ruler.

4.) The _____ stationed at the door of the Lodge at all meetings, he/she permits no person to enter without previous announcement and permission from the Exalted Ruler.

5.) The _____ records minutes of Lodge meetings, maintains Lodge accounts, receives all monies and forwards to the Treasurer, reads/answers all correspondence, prepares/administers membership cards.

6.) The _____ is the "President." He/she is the Executive Officer of the Lodge and enforces and performs duties required by the Laws of the Order and the By-Laws of the Lodge. The Exalted Ruler appoints all committees and has general supervision over all matters pertaining to the Lodge.

7.) The _____ is a group that control the funds and property of the Lodge and hold regular monthly meetings as part of the Governing Board. They keep a record of all investments and purchase all Lodge supplies, provide for an Accident Prevention Program and present an annual Lodge budget as well as being members of the House Committee.

8.) The _____ is Second in command in the absence of the Exalted Ruler.

9.) The _____ is stationed to the right of the Exalted Ruler during Lodge meetings. He/she organizes the Lodge, prepares candidates for initiation and introduces visiting members.

10.) The _____ is positioned at the inner door during Lodge meetings and only allows only those qualified to enter.

11.) The _____ receives all monies from the Secretary and gives a receipt, pays approved bills of the Lodge, maintains record of receipts and disbursements, and signs all checks.

Answer Key: 1.) Leading Knight 2.) Chaplain 3.) Lecturing Knight 4.) Tiler 5.) Secretary 6.) Exalted Ruler 7.) Trustees 8.) Loyal Knight 9.) Esquire 10.) Inner Guard 11.) Treasurer

Address Changes

Secretaries... Please don't forget to submit addresses changes and help us keep the Newsette mailing list up to date!

Upcoming Elks Children's Care Clinics

April 2022
- Lincoln Clinic April 5th at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital: 1:00 to 3:00 PM
- NW District @ Rockford Clinic April 20th at OrthoIllinois: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
- NW District @Morrison Clinic April 21st at Morrison Community Hospital: 8:00 AM

May 2022
- Flora Clinic May 4th at Clay County Flora Medical Clinic: 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Rock Island Clinic May 24th at ORA Orthopedics: 2:30 to 4:30 PM
- South District @ DuQuoin May 27th at Marshall Browning Hospital: 2:00 to 4:00 PM

June 2022
- Mt. Vernon Clinic June 2nd at Neuromuscular Orthopedic Institute: 3:00 to 5:00 PM
- Pontiac Clinic June 3rd Cortese Foot & Ankle Clinic: 12:00 to 1:00 PM
- Lincoln Clinic June 7th at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital: 1:00 to 3:00 PM
- Champaign/Urbana Clinic June 8th at OSF Healthcare Heart of Mary Medical Center: 8:30 to 10:30 AM
- Mt. Carmel Clinic June 20th at Wabash General Hospital: 8:30 to 10:30 AM
- Robinson Clinic June 15th at CMH Bone & Joint Center: 9:00 to 11:00 AM
- Effingham Clinic June 16th at Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Orthopedic Clinic: 8:00 AM
- NW District @ Rockford Clinic June 22nd at OrthoIllinois: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
- NW District @Morrison Clinic June 23rd at Morrison Community Hospital: 8:00 AM

July 2022
- No Clinics

August 2022
- Flora Clinic August 10th at Clay County Flora Medical Clinic 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Rock Island Clinic August 23rd at ORA Orthopedics: 2:30 to 4:30 PM
- South District @ DuQuoin August 26th at Marshall Browning Hospital: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
- Champaign/Urbana Clinic August 31st at OSF Healthcare Heart of Mary Medical Center: 8:30 to 10:30 AM

Dates subject to change.

CHILDREN'S CARE CORP

Emily is travelling in style thanks to you!

To the Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation
And to all of your members…
Thanks for your help! I love my new van!
Emily — Age 8 - Swansea, IL